

Montana Medicaid News

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OCR Expedites Claims Payment

On March 28, 2005, ACS began optical character recognition (OCR) of all CMS-1500 paper claims, including professional crossovers. During the OCR process, information from paper claims is read into OCR software and converted into an electronic format, resulting in quicker and more accurate processing. Paper claims that originally had a one to two month turn-around time are now processed within one to two weeks. OCR places paper claims processing slightly behind claims submitted electronically, which have only a two to three day turn around time.

Claims that pass through the OCR software without edit are paid more quickly than claims that do not meet the necessary criteria. Watch the *Montana Medicaid Claim Jumper* for tips on preparing claims for successful, timely passage through the software. UB-92 claims are schedule to begin processing through OCR during summer, 2005.